GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
URBAN DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:900
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2006
WATER SCARCITY IN INDIA
Narhire Smt. Kalpana Ramesh

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether as per recent UN study several metropolitan cities in worid especially in Asia, Africa and Europe are likely to face acute water scarcity due to increasing population;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the cities in India which are likely to face acute water shortage due to increase in population by 2010 AD; and

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to solve this problem in the country?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI AJAY MAKEN):

(a) and (b) World Water Development Report released by United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) estimates that 7,000 million people in 60 countries will face water scarcity by 2050. The full extent of global water crisis would depend upon factors like population growth, consumption pattern and policy relating to waste-water re-use. Climate change will contribute approximately 20 percent towards global water scarcity.

(c) and (d) A statement showing demand, availability/ supply position for 35 metropolitan cities complied by regional committees of Ministry of Water Resources is enclosed. In order to provide safe drinking water and other infrastructure facilities including water supply, the Government has launched Jawaharlal Nehru National Urban Renewal Mission (JNNURM) on 3.12.2005 along with two omnibus schemes nameiy
(i) Urban infrastructure Development Scheme for Small & Medium Towns (UIDSSMT) and
(ii) Integrated Housing and Slum jsvelopment Programme. 63 cities have been selected :- the basis of population criteria as per 2001 census ;`2 religious/historic and touristic importance for coverage /der the Mission. The cities/towns not covered under .`INRUM are eligible for assistance under UtDSSMT. Guidelines for implementation of the schemes have been circulated to the State Governments. Setting up desalination. Plants is also permissible under this schemes.